

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-3 (Cancelled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~An electronic~~ A camera comprising:

a white balance correcting circuit for correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a focusing circuit arranged to drive a lens, wherein said lens is used for a focusing operation; and

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the second object without driving said lens used for said focusing operation after operation for picking up said image of said second object by a user.

Claim 5 (Currently amended): ~~An electronic~~ A camera according to claim 4, the second object is white in color.

Claims 6-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): ~~An electronic~~ A camera according to claim 40 52, wherein said control circuit controls the said second operation of said focusing circuit to make a determination level with which said focusing circuit determines an in-focus state lower than that used for an image picking-up operation in said first operation.

Claim 23-38 (Canceled).

Claim 39 (Currently amended): ~~An electronic~~ A camera comprising:

a white balance correcting circuit for correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a focusing circuit arranged to perform ~~decision~~ determination of in-focus state and de-focus state; and

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the second object without performing ~~decision~~ determination of in-focus state and de-focus state after operation for picking up said image of said second object by a user.

Claim 40 (Cancelled).

Claim 41 (Currently amended): ~~An electric~~ A camera according to claim 4, or 39, ~~or~~ 40, further comprising:

an operation element by which a user selects at least a first mode and a second mode;

wherein said first mode is a mode in which said white balance correcting circuit corrects white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of third object on the basis of white balance data corresponding to a light source, which has been beforehand prepared, and said second mode is a mode in which said white balance correcting circuit corrects said white balance of said picked-up image by picking up said image of said first object on the basis of said white balance data obtained by picking up said image of said second object,

a second control circuit for displaying a screen used for picking up an image of said second object in a display in said camera ~~for switching a screen of a display device in said electric camera to a screen for picking up an image of said second object according to~~

~~selecting said second mode, wherein said screen for picking up an image of said second object is different from a screen for picking up an image of said first object.~~

Claim 42 (Currently amended): ~~An electric~~ A camera according to claim 41,
further comprising:

a release switch, for picking up said image of said first object, which is operated by a user;

a third control circuit for operating said focusing circuit and then picking up said image of said first object according to operation of said release switch.

Claim 43 (Currently amended): ~~An electric~~ A camera according to claim 42,
wherein said image of said second object is picked up by operation of said release switch in said second mode.

Claim 44 (Currently amended): ~~An electric~~ A camera according to claim ~~40~~ 52,
wherein time for said focusing operation on the basis of said second operation is shorter than time for said focusing operation on the basis of said first operation.

Claim 45 (Currently amended): ~~An electric~~ A camera according to ~~claims~~ claim
~~39 or 40~~, wherein said second object is white in color.

Claim 46 (Currently amended): A control method for controlling ~~an electric~~ a
camera having a focusing circuit arranged to drive a lens, wherein said lens is used for a
focusing operation, said control method comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object
on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the second object without driving said lens used for
said focusing operation after operation for picking up said image of said second object.

Claim 47 (Currently amended): A storage medium which stores therein a program for executing a process for controlling ~~an electric~~ a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to drive a lens, wherein said lens is used for a focusing operation, said process comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the second object without driving said lens used for said focusing operation after operation for picking up said image of said second object.

Claim 48 (Currently amended): A control method for controlling ~~an electric~~ a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to perform decision of in-focus state and de-focus stated, said control method comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the second object without performing decision of in-focus state and de-focus state.

Claim 49 (Currently amended): A storage medium which stores therein a program for executing a process for controlling ~~an electric~~ a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to perform decision of in-focus state and de-focus stated, said process comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the second object without performing decision of in-focus state and de-focus state.

Claim 50 (Canceled).

Claim 51 (Canceled).

Claim 52 (New): A camera comprising:

a white balance correcting circuit for correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a focusing circuit arranged perform a focusing operation;

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and for picking up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation;

an operation element by which a user selects at least a first mode and a second mode;

wherein said first mode is a mode in which said white balance correcting circuit corrects white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of third object on the basis of white balance data corresponding to a light source, which has been beforehand prepared, and said second mode is a mode in which said white balance correcting circuit corrects said white balance of said picked-up image by picking up said image of said first object on the basis of said white balance data obtained by picking up said image of said second object;

a second control circuit for displaying a screen used for picking up an image of said second object in a display in said camera.

Claim 53 (New): A camera according to claim 52, further comprising:

a release switch, for picking up said image of said first object, which is operated by a user;

a third control circuit for operating said focusing circuit and then picking up said image of said first object according to operation of said release switch.

Claim 54 (New): A camera according to claim 53, wherein said image of said second object is picked up by operation of said release switch in said second mode.

Claim 55 (New): A camera according to claims 52, wherein said second object is white in color.

Claim 56 (New): A camera comprising:

a white balance correcting circuit for correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a focusing circuit arranged to perform a focusing operation; and

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and for picking up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation;

wherein said focusing circuit performs focusing operation on the basis of an image whose sharpness is higher than a plurality of images.

Claim 57 (New): A camera comprising:

a white balance correcting circuit for correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a focusing circuit controls so that an image of object obtained by picking up changes from de-focus state to in-focus state; and

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and for picking up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation.

Claim 58 (New): A camera comprising:

a white balance correcting circuit for correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

a focusing circuit arranged to perform focusing operation by determination of sharpness of an image and

a control circuit for controlling to pick up the image of the second object without performing determination of sharpness of said image of said second object after operation for picking up said image of said second object by a user.

Claim 59 (New): A camera according to claim 58, further comprising:

an operation element by which a user selects at least a first mode and a second mode;

wherein said first mode is a mode in which said white balance correcting circuit corrects white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of third object on the basis of white balance data corresponding to a light source, which has been beforehand prepared, and said second mode is a mode in which said white balance correcting circuit corrects said white balance of said picked-up image by picking up said image of said first

object on the basis of said white balance data obtained by picking up said image of said second object,

a second control circuit for displaying a screen used for picking up an image of said second object in a display in said camera.

Claim 60 (New): A camera according to claim 59, further comprising:

a release switch, for picking up said image of said first object, which is operated by a user;

a third control circuit for operating said focusing circuit and then picking up said image of said first object according to operation of said release switch.

Claim 61 (New): A camera according to claim 60, wherein the image of said second object is picked up by operation of said release switch in said second mode.

Claim 62 (New): A camera according to claim 58, wherein said second object is white in color.

Claim 63 (New): A control method for controlling a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to perform a focusing operation, said control method comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and to pick up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation,

wherein said focusing circuit performs focusing operation on the basis of an image whose sharpness is higher than a plurality of images.

Claim 64 (New): A control method for controlling a camera having a focusing circuit controlling so that an image of object obtained by picking up changes from de-focus state to in-focus state, said control method comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and to pick up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation.

Claim 65 (New): A control method for controlling a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to perform focusing operation by determination of sharpness of an image, said control method comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the second object without performing determination of sharpness of said image of said second object after operation for picking up said image of said second object by a user.

Claim 66 (New): A storage medium which stores therein a program for executing a process for controlling a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to perform a focusing operation, said process comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and to pick up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation,

wherein said focusing circuit performs focusing operation on the basis of an image whose sharpness is higher than a plurality of images.

Claim 67 (New): A storage medium which stores therein a program for executing a process for controlling a camera having a focusing circuit controlling so that an image of object obtained by picking up changes from de-focus state to in-focus state, said process comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the first object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a first operation, and to pick up the image of the second object by operating said focusing circuit on the basis of a second operation, different from said first operation.

Claim 68 (New): A storage medium which stores therein a program for executing a process for controlling a camera having a focusing circuit arranged to perform focusing operation by determination of sharpness of an image, said process comprising the steps of:

correcting white balance of a picked-up image by picking up an image of first object on the basis of white balance data obtained by picking up an image of second object;

controlling to pick up the image of the second object without performing determination of sharpness of said image of said second object after operation for picking up said image of said second object by a user.